Howland Wood - Personal

Courteau, Eugene Gaspard, Dr.
[Numismate,
St. Jaques de l'Achigan
Quebec, Canada]

1903-1910

Dr COURTEAU,

NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, 30 April 1903

Mr Howland Wood

Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

Your letter is received O.K. and contents noted. Re 690. lies on all. Have been sold for 8^{00} at Col. Walter Cutting's sale - we can procure it here for about $10. in perfect cond. It seems not counterfeited. Re 5-5-8, counterstamps on Rev. means nothing. I had 2 specimen of 1008, one in much better cond. than on nbf. and have seen 2 or 3. The piece sells from $6. to $8. being in so poor cond. or so bad executed.

Hoping this will be satisfactory.

I remain, Yours truly,

Dr Courteau

Dr COURTEAU,
NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, March 16th 1906

Mr Howland Wood, Secretary
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

Yours received and read with pleasure, will always be pleased to hear from you on Canadian subjects. I am much interested in the "Blacksmiths", the "1820 Bush & Harp" and the S.C.&C. series; in fact in all Canadian varieties. Concerning the S.C.&C., you don't mention the number of bars you possess; I have about 40 bars., omitting Gibbs 23 and 11, the former does not exist - I have seen Gibbs' and it is exactly as his No 22 -, and the latter don't deserve an individual number; the short line running from sail is not sufficient, in my thinking, to give it a separate number. Both Obv. and Rev. are exactly like those of No 10. Your no 1. 2. 3 are O.K. 3 b, though bearing same Rev. as to that of 998 - Obv. Harp - I will leave it in the Ships series. I have not look close enough to your Blacksmith with Ship Rev. to say it is recut from Gibbs No 3, and even your opinion would be right, I would include it amongst Blacksmiths. There exist connection ~~with~~ between almost all of our Canadians, this only proves that they are realy Canadians - There are but few doubtfulp Canadians. I should like to have a specimen with Bush on Obv. and Ship on Rev. as yours - and would pay a good price for it. No 4. 5. 6 and 4 are correct. I running waves better term than "18 asymetrical waves"

(over)

for Gibbs 5 ? No 8, I call it the "Connected dots" var. No 9, the "unfinished N". There are 2 vars. of Gibbs 10, in the spacing of the letters, especialy MM in "Commerce"; one var. with close M's, an other with distant M's. Your no 10 c, I call it the "Blunt R" var., the tail of letter R is short and blunt, as you illustrate, and letter presents slight difference in spacing. No 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16 and 17 are all right.

Have a very good no 16 for 50¢, my no 18 are only about good.

Would like very much to see your different vars. of Gibbs 19. and 21. and your Obv. of 16 and Rev. of 15 duplicate? You must have no 22, Guess you meant 23. No 24. 25 and 26 O.K.

The differences in no 27 are, I should think, merely due to defective die. No 28, I have seen in once, but don't own one.

Hoping to hear from you,

I remain, yours truly,

W. E. Courtenay

Dr COURTEAU,
NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, April 9th 1906

Mr Howland Wood, Secretary of the C. N. A.
Brookline - Mass.

Dear Sir,

I was well pleased to receive coins from you, for me to compare with mine. My no 16 is very good, I regret can not use yours as it is too poor. No, Sir, your no 27 with double stays is not Gibbs 28. Would prefer you to make price on your no 16 Rev. 16.

Have either no 999 or 1000, but have seen the former, the hull of ship is different to others, it has the shape of an inverted nut shell, thus ⊖, the letters are small, circular and widely spaced, that is if my memory is not in fault. Thanks for term on Gibbs no 5.

Although I respect very much your opinion on the Blacksmith ~~obv~~ with head to right, which are very plausible, I will still consider them as Canadians, and wait until more (further) evidences. 1008, I consider a Blacksmith and see very little connection with B. 555 or 559. This is only my opinion - - - I would have like to see your different brass bars. Don't know much about Lows assertion, whether the coins can have been split or not. Yes, I believe the brass ones were struck before the head to r., which I think were so in about 1837 or 1840, while the former must have been struck from 1820 to 1830, they have some similarity with the ~~Harp~~ Bust & Harp series. The D. C. & Com. were struck, in my thinking, in different time, that is from 1815 to 1850.

I have very few duplicates of either 994. 1012 and Blacksmiths, except, of course, of the common ones. You will find a list of them inclosed herewith. Wherever these coins, 994 1012 and Blacksmiths, were struck, I consider them really Canadian.

In fact, we have very few doubtfuls, all those pieces known or described as so, are in my idea, purely Canadians. They all have relationships between each other. Though you don't claim to be an authority on Canadian coins, I find your theories very nice. Can not find out what you mean by your P. S. "What does the other date of this look like I never saw one".

You seems to think that I have a lot of vars of 1012, that's all I have. It is hard for me ~~to pick~~ and have seldom the opportunity to pick up new vars. We are far from great Cities, and my profession don't allow me to leave very often. I have not go to Montreal since four years.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Wm Cantean

Dr COURTEAU,

NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, April 14th 1906

Mr Howland Wood.

Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

Inclosed find Blacksmith, Rev. Britannia on water, on sight, as required by your last letter; this piece might be high but I consider it rare and have paid a good price for it. Have 3 vars. of Libbs 19 belonging to you viz: my 13. g. 14 rather poor and 14 v.g., as my own 13 is rather poor and as I would like to improve it, I would exchange it against 10 12 my no 16 of which you seems short; have 2 specimens of this last number in v.g. cond. Have divided Libbs 19 diff. vars. in "Large stays" and in "Small stays" vars. Can you send me on sight your 10 12 Copper no 1, over 5.? or sell me one if you have a duplicate? Would like very much to see it. If you have any vars. of 997,

(over)

1012 or Blacksmiths which you think
new (you seems to have new bars. of Gibbs q. and
you would obliged me very much in
sending them for me to compare.
This will also be in the interest of science
I will write you a longer letter later on
am much busy at present, and have
hard work; the roads here, in this season of
the year are very bad.

Yours very truly,

W^m Courtean

Dr COURTEAU,
NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, April 23rd 1906

Mr Howland Wood,

Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

Have look closer to your G. 19's and find that you are right concerning my no 13, yours is surely a new var., besides I find that you lack my no 16, but you have also a new var. of the "Small stays". Note it on slip and please return it back as I will work it. Your 1012 over 5-copper-is new to me. My 1825, the usual 1820 (copper) and your over 5 have great relationship; the three coins, as I can judge, are from recut dies. Would like very much to secure yours, can pay you a good price for it. I see that you are very fortunate in getting so easily such good coins as those indicated in your last letter! I wish I had that opportunity; all the varieties I possess had to pay good prices for them. Would you sell your duplicates? That is those I care for; if so, please send me a list. If not, please keep them for me, in case you might want to sell them later on. Of course, I would not promise you to buy surely, but would like you to write me when ever you decide to part with; as it make take you some time before you change your mind, and during that space of time I ~~might~~ may find some of yours. At any rate, if ever you were to sell them, would be much ~~obl~~ obliged to you, if you let me Know.

Minor varieties of no 24 would not give them separate numbers.

You have 4 specimens of G. Obv. 16 - Rev. 15 and have 2, I think 50 cts is pretty high. Low's description of Bust + Harp with legend around is my no 20. Of course I will include B. 999 and 1000 in my list but will wait untill I get the pieces. I am not ah all in haste to compile my book; I find that the more I wait the better it is. I have myself describe 4 vars. of Rev. of Blacksmith no 14, but I doubt whether there exist such differences; I fear the apparent differences are merely due to coins being badly struck. As to my division, I may make some change yet, and will take your judicious remarks in consideration. Obv. G. 15 Rev. 19 must be an error; however, I don't know of such combination.

Thank you very much for opinion given on degrees of R. of the S. C. + C. series; have not gone in this, so far. Will try to make you a rating on them, to my best knowledge. It might be early yet to give good rating. Any duplicates of the S. C. + C. you may have that I have not, please let me know and keep them for me. I think you might have one of G. 19 - that I lack.

Many thanks, my Wood, for the good services you have rendered to me so far.

I remain,

Very truly yours,

W. Courteau

Dr COURTEAU,

NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, April 25th 1906

Mr Howland Wood,

Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

I have received your card the same day I wrote you my last letter. Will mail your coins this afternoon and get them registred.

Should certainly be pleased to receive a print of your S. C. & C. and thank you foo it in anticipation.

I am much obliged to you for the good faith you had unto me, in sending your coins for me to compare and study them. I also thank you very much for your good letters, and hope you will continue to correspond with me. I have surely found many hints from them, and am so fond of this kind of work. I am much interested in our Canadian coins and in my moments of leisure, have a great pleasure studying them.

Yours very truly, Dr Courteau

Dr COURTEAU,
NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, April 28th 1906

Mr Wood,
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir, I hope you have received your coins in good shape, by this time, as I have mailed them soon after your card reached here. I am sending you the S.C.&C. pieces you ask for, hoping they will be of some use to you; thought would send you few drooping flags so you might choose the best. As you may notice it, the one having same Rev. as to that of B.998, is very good for coin. As to my no 16, of course I might have made a mistake from rubbing, however, I think am right! If you have or find some duplicates of Gs. 19 that I have not, hope you won't forget me. Same in regard as to the Bust & Harp and Blacksmiths series; for instance 1012 over 5, and the Blacks. Rev. Ship. If you don't mind, can you give me the address of that person you speak about in your last letter, owing the S.C.&C. collection in Canada. That is, Mr Wood, if there is no arm in doing so.

Dr COURTEAU,

NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, May 10th 1906

Mr Howland Wood,

Boston - Mass.

Dear Sir,

Have received in time photo of the S.C.& C., it is a real success; everything on it shows plainly. Many thanks! Also yours of the 4th ult. with coins, "en plus" your 25; have noted contents of same and will surely write you longer in few days; have somethink to say —

I noted on your list of my duplicats the following which I would like to secure, please send them with price: Your own list, No 9. 29. 31 perfect die. 34. 35. and 39. I have already your 25.

I am much busy by this time; the weather is very bad and the roads, here, are awfull.

Yours truly,

W. Courteau

Dr COURTEAU,
NUMISMATE.

it has ever been created to qualify men who know all about coins & medals - that is my opinion,
V= C.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, May 18th 1906

Mr Wood,
Brookline Mass.

Dear Sir,

In answer to the first query of yours of the 7 ult. I must say, as I told you in a previous letter, that your photo. of the S.C.T.C. is very good, and I thank you very much for it. But, as you know, perfection is not of this World, then there will be always critics. However, Mr Wood, I hope you will take the following remarks in good part: your no 4 it is not properly Gibbs 3, as this Rev. was unknown to him and is entirely different to that of his no 3; I would omitted that no 3. Your no 9 should be G. 22, 23 does not exist. You might had some reason, but if I understood you properly, you were to put all specimens presenting same obv. together, then I don't understand why your no 26 does not follow 19, with these two numbers, 19 and 20, transposed - thus 20 in place of 19 and 26 following. Of course, it is not of much importance; it is only a question of order or regularity. Your no 42 and 43, I regret can not accept them as different bars. If we were to make bars with all Canadian tokens presenting defects in dies, we would have thousand of them. Our Canadians are rich in freaks of all sort; of course, if one wants to collect and describe those, that is an other thing! But in a description of our regular bars., I should think,

the doing of so must be avoided.

Now, as to the second query — (a very delicate one to answer), whether you should photographe the B. 1012 series, this is your own affair; but allow me to tell you right off, in a straight manner, that I can not have anything to do with it. The way things are going along, it makes me think to a man who would go to a gold district, buy a claim, work hard at it, and as soon as he finds gold, would leave it to others! I should like, Mr Wood, to be well understood, and hope you won't be angry against me. Although our acquaintance is but recent, I find that you are a very nice man, and will always be pleased to correspond with you.

In regard to your rubbing book, it is hard to tell about no 2 (from rubbing of a poor coin), even the Obv. seems different, i.e. the neck and the chin, and the ribbon bow. The differences between my no 10. 11 & 12 are very slight; it consists merely in the forehead & chin and in the shape of ribbon bow on Obv., and in the spacing of the lines forming St George cross on shield. My no 13, after a careful inspection is nothing but your no 5 (my 12a).

Enclosed find 1.05 in settlement of coins sent, your no 25 included, I suppose you will make it square?

Yours truly,

W. Courteau

P.S. I hope you won't be scandalized for the word "Numismatish" after my name, as one was (he was one of the proudest men I ever came across). I think it a false humility! Any one working hard, studying coins, even at a single series, deserves this title. If we consider the word numismatish by its own etymology, I don't believe

Dr COURTEAU,

NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, Sept. 24th 1906

W. Howland Wood

Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

Yours received with pleasure & contents noted. Thank you very much for rubbing enclosed.

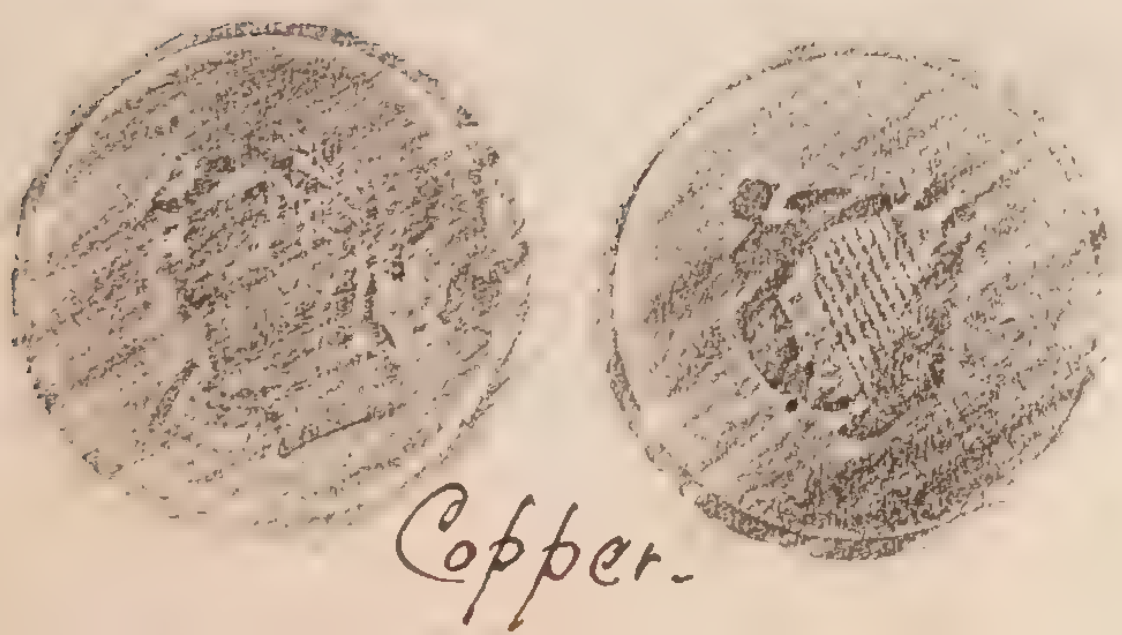
I expect to get my book printed soon; should be much obliged to receive rubbings of your bust & harp varieties, as I only have 21 or 22; also some of your new Blacksmiths. Have absolutely found nothing new this summer, that is since I wrote you last. I have noted in "The Numismatist" that you have been admitted as member of the Royal Numismatic Society of England." Mes meilleures felicitations "!

Hope to hear from you.

I remain yours truly,

Dr Courteau

Brass.



Copper.

A Few of Our Lines.

BISCUITS

Sodas

Bulk
Pails
1-lb. C.B.
3-lb. C.B.
3-lb. Tins

Crackers

Oyster
Salt

Barrel

Regent
Royal Tiger
Alexandrias
Miss. Coffee, etc.

Marsh Mallow

Jubilee
M.M. Raspberry bar
M.M. Honey bar

Iced

Lemon Sandwich
Vanilla do
Strawberry do
Iced Ginger
Cocoa Jumbles
Iced Coffee Cake
Iced Honey Bar

Soft Sweets

City Mixed
Lemon Cream
Honey Jumbles
Excelsior Mixed
Strawb'ry Jumbles

Wafers

Lovers Secrets
Cachous and Diadems
Puritan
Caramels
Humbugs
Acid Drops
Cough
Menthol
Rock
Druggists Tablets
Gum Drops
Wintergreen Berries
Carraways
Butter Creams
Package Goods

Chocolates

Drops
Elite
Exquisite
Paterson

Dr COURTEAU,
NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, Nov. 8th 1906

Mr Howland Wood,
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

I regret had to keep your rubbings longer than I would; am very busy just now.

As I am going to publish my book soon, I wish you would use my name either on rubbings or in correspondences.

The Breton 1008 unless I have the opportunity to compare the different bars can not accept them as I have seen 4 or 5 examples of those in different time, and all were alike. Then I will use no 1. for 1008 and no 2 for my Bust and Harp bar. Know but 5 distinct bars of the brass ones. Is your 6a really brass? Is rubbing of your 10a from me? 21a never heard of, does it exist? Of the Bust and Harp series, I am short of your no 7a, your 8a is my no 18. Could you not find me an example of your 7a? ~~7a~~ Is description of my no 11 from Heal?

Inclosed find rubbings asked for on your last letter, hope they will be useful to you.

If there is no objection — only in that case — can you give the Chicago man address, that you speak on your letter?

In regard rubbings enclosed within Envelope I don't know

whether they are from Lincolnshire doubtful or not, but I will not accept them as so.

I remain,

Yours truly,

W. Counteau

Write for about
£2 10s/

Dr COURTEAU,

NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, March 5th 1907

Mr Howland Wood,

Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir,

Inclose rubbing as per your last letter. I have never seen 96 silvered or don't know whether they were ~~ordered~~ issued that way. No, I have not had the chance to add something new to my S. C. & C.'s. Have you any duplicates of your nos 36 and 40 ? I am short of those, also of your B. 1012 – 1820 over 1825.

Hoping to hear from you, I remain

Truly yours,

Dr Courteau

St Jacques, 6 May 1907

Wm Howland Wood,

Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

I am just reading your card of March the 23rd (s.e.9c.); are you sure your No 36 & 40, are in existence? Have you seen them? If I am not mistaking your No 40 is a combination of dies, that is a mule?

I should be much obliged to you for an answer on the two above named varieties, as I don't like to include in my description varieties I don't possess or I am not sure of their existence. I will rely on your word.

Very truly Yours,

Dr Courteau

Dr COURTEAU,

NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, 6th of May 1907

Mr Howland Wood, Sec.

Brockville, Man.

Dear Sir,

I am in favor of the new Constitution and By-laws as proposed and printed in "The Numismatist", but I fear that an increase of one dollar on subscription will not be in favor among mostly subscribers, that is, if ever the thing happen.

Yours truly,

Dr Courteau

May 7, 1907.

Mr. Scudder,

Dear Sir-

Your favor of yesterday just at hand, of the A.G.A.U. pieces I have no. As I have not compared it with the photograph and find it correct, no. 5 I do it or but I was thinking that I borrowed it from you, but as you say you do not own it I must have borrowed it from A.....ical, for they were the only people I corresponded about it from I am very sure that no. 5 is correct as I do it but why I could have made a mistake, as I worked on it that very afternoon, I could remember by the specimen now and it would be a very easy matter to verify it from it.

The only new piece which has turned up I have to report is that which that was in Lots last sale. The piece is without doubt genuine and a strong piece the skin side is from the shoulder to my no. 7. I am putting you [illegible] on it. I know nothing of its history, or why it was [illegible] to do it so.- The rev. of 40 is different than any other that I know of, the rev. of 30 is the same as 20.

Do not forget that the obv. of no. 40 is found with two different rev. the regular one with rev of 40 and a scarce one with rev. of 47

In regard to the increased dues to the A.N.A. I doubt if it will ever happen, certainly not while we can give value enough to warrant the raise, however as we now have the Constitution will be in force for a number of years we would not be concerned for any contingency.

Yours truly,

Dr COURTEAU,
NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, 20th of June 1907

Mr Howland Wood,
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

I would have answered before to your good letter of the 4th of May, but have been much busy and had any little news that would interested you.

I thank you very much for new rubbing and information given on your nos. 36 and 40, and combination of Reverse of your no. 26, which I have already take notice from one of your previous letters.

As to the lead piece, from Dow, I, myself, know nothing about its origin or the use of it.

Inclosed find rubbing of a new Rev. of the "Large Stays" var.; although these "Stays" var. are not easily found, there are quite Numerous de varieties.

How are you in your Bust & Harp series, have you some thing new? I should be much obliged to you for a list giving degrees of rarity, to the best of your knowledge, on these tokens.

I notice that Chapman use your Nos. in his sale Cat.. this should always be done; it would have the greatest advantage to stimulate more the Collectors and make

(over)

them collating in a more scientific manner; don't you think so? Concerning the Franco-American factors, he should have used Hazard's nos.; Dreton is not at all exact on these.

Pompeian errs when giving your no 3 as rare, especially poor. I think your no 4 much rarer, this is your opinion, isn't it?

Letters or news from you will always be received with pleasure and read with care.

I remain,

Very truly yours,

W. Courtean

Dr COURTEAU,
NUMISMATE.

St Jacques de l'Achigan, 10th July 1907

Mr Howland Wood,
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

Your last letter received and read with pleasure. If I understand you properly, your series of the B.C.& C. is complete, your no 15 excepted. I hope when ever you get duplicate of the following numbers: 36. 40 and 41 that you won't forget me, as I should very much like to complete mine. In fact, I shall be much obliged to you for any rare or scarce Canadian varieties. I am always open to buy rare Canadian coins. I wish you could find me a good B. 690.

Is your 1012 series complete? Have you the 1825? If you find some new varieties, please let me know. Would you be kind enough to give degree of rarity from 1 to 10 on separate slip enclosed herewith; I did not understand you concerning them, for instance no 2, 14 and 15 you consider rare, whereas the former is common here, ~~and~~ 14 and 15 are hardly scarce.

I may write the "Blacksmiths" sometime. I thank you very much for your good help, which you give me every day; again on your letter regarding Peck and Starbuck mule and Low's note. I think, I will include this mule among the Blacksmiths, though it is also found on thick flan, but very rarely struck

My last 2 and 3, I have never seen them, they are from rubbings. I have always had doubt on their existence and used these numbers to help me. You can not rely on rubbings from such poor coin as is no 1008. I gave you already my opinion on 1008, on one of my previous letter: I believe ~~there~~ there is but one variety with Bust and Inscription ended. Same remark concerning your no 20 (my no 11); I still believe there is but one var. Reading hours notes over, I saw on one of your letter that Dre L. has this: Obv. Eagle Rev. Starbuck's Card, as to the one with Eagle. Rev. Britannia, it is the first time I hear about.

I can not accept the Gloriers III X is not the St Amand as Blacksmiths.

Can you make me a list of the S.C. & C. the Bust & Harp and the Blacksmiths duplicates of the scarce ones (you possess) that is if it is not too much asking you.

Hoping to read you soon,

I remain,

Very truly yours,

W. Courteau

P.S. Having had to change my numbers of the 1012, so, I can hardly place yours. W. C.

Dr COURTEAU,

NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, ... 19

Can not make out clearly what you mean by " In fact I never want to sell any coin I have not got ", I understood that the Bust & Harp over 5 was yours. Do you mean it belongs to some one else, or you don't want to sell any coin that you have not got, in duplicate ?

The B. 558 or 59, rubbing of which you sent me, have already seen it. If I remember well, it belonged to Mr Hall of Peterborough. As I told you on one of my letter have a Blacksmith with the harp Rev. only ; struck on a very thin planchet. This would gave right to those who teach that some of this series have been split in two, to make halves. any how, I don't think much of those coins struck on one side only. What is your idea on these, Mr Wood ? Will also send you one of my photo ; it has been printed three years ago ; having no recent one, presently. Would like you to exchange yours against mine.

I remain, Very truly yours, Dr Courteau

Dr COURTEAU,
NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, 19th July 1907

Mr Howland Wood,
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your good answers regarding S.C.& C. 1012 and the "Blacksmith".

I notice that you misunderstood me when I said degree of rarity from 1. to 10., I meant ranging from 1. to 10, thus: R. 1. 2. 3 and so on to 10. We don't agree on the degree of R. of the 1012; this can be explain by some varieties being scarce in one locality and common in an other.

In substance you say: "With the exception of 8 none of the first 10 were rare". There is my opinion on them; 10 string group, nos 4 is very common, 1. 2 and 9 are common, 4. 5 and 6 not common, 3 and 10 are scarce. 9 string group, 11 very common, 12. 14 and 15 are common, 13. 19 and 23 not common, 17 scarce, 16. 18 and 20 rare, 21 and 22 very rare (the latter seems to me so). 8 string group, 24 scarce, 25 and 26 rare. As to the numbers you lack, I believed you had my no 15, as you were making 2 bars. out of it. It is the commencement of the 4 bars. belonging to a group that I style the "Bouleer head".

I learn that rubbing of B. 1008 you speak about, we can't rely on it. after having carefully inspected your 14 a and b, I still believe in the existence of but one variety; can not make 2 vars. of out of them.

You will find enclosed this letter your 6 Blacksmiths, for which accept my best thanks.

Hoping to receive news from you when any thing interesting might come out,

I remain,

Very truly yours,

W. Cointeau

P. S. Have you received anything good from the Stickney sale, especialy in the line in which I am interested, Dr. 6.

Dr COURTEAU,
NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, 7 Jan., 1908

Wm Howland Wood,
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

You have not answered to my question whether your B. 992 Rev. Hard Times token die is for sale.
Your intention sending your Bust & Harp to right – my no 20 – on sight, will be considered a great favor.
I really cannot find a better home for that token than our 1820 Bust & Harp token, with which it has the greatest relationship wherever it might have been struck.
I notice that mostly all collectors err in classing our tokens; I gave lots of hints to Heal on S. C. & Commerces, and Gibbs got them from him.
Lately Wm McLachlan was at a loss

Dr COURTEAU,

NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, ... 19

Concerning the Blacksmith with Bust to r. Rev. Rising Sun Tavern.
He said he compared his with Bon's and Yours, and was very sure it was a meaningless legend on.
I proved him that my reading "The Rising Sun Tavern" was all right.
Same thing regarding the 1820 Bust & Harp to left in copper - My nos. 21. 22 and 23. No Collectors would admit the 1825 as genuine before I shown them that the copper ones were from same die but retouched.
Many thanks for your photo. You look well and very ~~conf~~ comfortable!
Wishing you a very happy and prosperous year, I remain,

Yours truly,

Dr Courteau

Dr COURTEAU,
NUMISMATE.

St. Jacques de l'Achigan, 31st Febr., 1908

Mr Howland Wood,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir,

I was well pleased to receive your Buck & Hard to right token, to compare it with mine. It is a very good copy, but unfortunately the date does not show. I am sending you mine as requested in your letter, under same cover, hoping both will reach you safely.

After having carefully studied them, I come to the conclusion that the piece was issued as a satirical token against George III, and it was the issuer's intention to make the reading a puzzle, probably in fear of the law. It is to some one to make it out, for it has certainly a meaning. To arrive at that end, one must secure several specimens or a perfect token.

There are six specimens known so far; it is surely scarce, but not as much so as my no. 25.

Is Mr Frey interested in our tokens? The sending of yours for him to look at, induce me to think so.

~~Allow me to~~ Is it too much to ask you where you got your token and how much you paid for. If you rather not tell, there will be no harm at all, as I should not like to not be "nice" with you.

Any meeting to know the price and where the piece is from is to know an idea of the value of the coin, and whether it is such from persons whom I know having it in their possession.

Before me Mr Ward, to ask you what reason would you believe B 19 Ms. N.T. Token a Blacksmith? In sending me a rubbing of that token and the exact number of the reverse, according to Low's book, you will confer me a favor.

It might be hard on you to be so much busy, but, it is the better for the Association; don't you think so?

Precisely while writing to you, we are enduring a severe storm; yesterday and the day before were the coldest days of the season, the thermometer went as low as 32 = yesterday morning.

The Provincial Star reported that you had an universal cold weather in Boston, too.

Very truly yours,

W. Courtenay

Dr COURTEAU,
NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, 21 Febr., 1908

Sam Woodward Esqr,
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

I am returning your token under same cover. Many thanks! Also for your good reasons giving when you took the Bust and Harp to right token.

I have two specimens and have seen one 7 or 8 years ago from an Upper Canada token, which make 4 specimens. Dow told me ~~once~~ - ~~never~~ that he ~~had seen~~ had seen several specimens of that token. How far that assertion goes, I don't Know.

I rather like hearing anything about Dow; he has played me the meanest trick a man can play to some one. I, who had rested all my confidence, and for years, upon that man!

I was much pleased ~~to~~ reading your opinions on the Blacksmith, as to their origin and the probable dates they were issued. What do you think of mine on the Bust-Harp to right-token? ~~I still~~

I still believe your token D. 792 Rev. Low 19 not a Blacksmith; the fact that some coins ~~not~~ occur struck on thin planchets, or poorly struck, is not sufficient reason, to my thinking, to class them amongst Blacksmiths.

I am not making that remark to discredit your token, but simply to throw light on the study of our Canadian tokens. I would class yours with its companion D. 792, as Mr Breton classed the Blacksmith—

bouquet token among the "Sow-bouquet" series.

I have sent to Dr Heath, a month or two ago, a list giving the description of the Blacksmiths, which, I expect, will appear in the forth coming catch. You will then notice my opinion on that issue.

Mr Henry Chapman, in his last sale catalogue, prices very high M. 1012. Dup no 2, also the Blacksmiths. I have seen them and found his grading entirely too high.

I have tried since last fall to get into the collection of your 2½ dollars, have about 25 of different dates and varieties. I should like to have your opinion whether they are worth keeping. Thanking you, if there will be any premium on them, in due course of future.

Yours,

Very truly yours,

W Courtenay

Dr COURTEAU,

NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, 9 March 1908

Mr Howland Wood,

Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

I am returning your 1008 brass piece and impression sent on sight, under separate cover.

I have seen the latter few years ago, and I am far from being ready to accept it as Canadian. I have always had strong suspicion on the genuiness of that piece.

The brass 1008 is listed in Scott's 1893 ed., but I have decided from the beginning to include in my list only piece that I see, or of which I have a good rubbing. For this reason I feel much oblige to you for sending the token on sight and please accept my best thanks!

I notice that your Blacksmith series is quiet complete, my best congratulations!

I regret of being unable to supply those that you are short of; being in the same case; except for the Eagle on both sides, of which I have a copy.

(over please)

Many thanks also for your good advices on the U. S. 1/4 eagles; I have Elmer Sears' catalogue, and went through it with great interest. He seems to be a go-ahead boy!

I know nothing about John Daw.

Very truly Yours,

W. Courtenay

Dr COURTEAU,
NUMISMATE.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, 13 May 1908

Wm Woland Wood,
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for the interest you seem to have in the description of the Blacksmith Tokens, also for your judicious remarks!

As you may have noticed it, there are several errors in "The Numismatist"; first thing of all is the heading, which should be "The Blacksmith Tokens". In no. 8, the word left before Knee has been added; in no. 5, it should read whereas the four following varieties, and many others.

I have never seen no. 2, except from a rubbing sent me by Ideal of Toronto; he gave it to me for sure the piece was in existence, but belonging to a friend of his, who did not care to send it out on sight. Besides I really believe myself that that variety exists.

As to no. 6 brass, your remark may be correct; I had to change my numbers so often that it is quite plausible I have mixed them up. When sending back my tokens, would you please send yours on sight.

I still firmly believe that nos. 5, 8, 9 and 10 are exactly alike. I do not account a bit for rusted dies. I have nos. 7 and 10 from

cracked and rusted dies.

The reverse of no. 18 is most likely different from that of no. 17, such what difference? And the coins are so poor; yet I should like very much to see yours, if in very good condition.

I consider coins occurring with blank obverses or reverses merely freaks and can not accept them as varieties.

Coins should have but one home; the drooping flag are all right amongst the S.E.F.C. tokens.

I am sending you by registed mail and under same cover my nos. 3 and 28. Please return as soon as you will be done with them. Care very much for these two coins.

Can you make me a scale of approximative degrees of rarity on the "Blacksmiths"? In doing so, you will oblige very much.

Yours truly,

Dr Courtean

St Jacques 25 May 1908

Mr Howland Wood,

Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

I have always been frank with you, and I still wish to be so.

As I have often told you, it is my intention to publish then and now books on Canadians given full description of each variety and illustration of all of them from coins themselves.

I have worked hard at them since many years; I have spent considerable sums of money to secure those I was short of, and, I should give all that away to others for them to get all the credit; that is unreasonable; that is against all good sense!

I don't fear to say that I am the first man that worked searching for the different varieties of our coins — I mean seriously and constantly —

When Gibbs published his account on the S. L. & C., it was a year or two I was working at them.

By that time Heal was corresponding with me trying to get all the informations he could. Although I had asked him to not say a word about what I was writing to him, - he told it all to Gibbs. Yet, Gibbs' list was not complete; - he had overlooked several varieties.

The coin you sent me with pellets around border, I know nothing about. You are right as to your brass piece, it is exactly as my no 4.

Yes, I have 4 with circle around top border. I have no. 8 without that circle, but am not sure; the piece is so weakly struck.

I know the eagle on no. 28 is not the same as that on no. 23 and 26; else I would have written: ~~Eagle~~ Same Eagle as on no. 23, on both sides.

I have submitted my account to an advanced collector, and he wrote me your description is very adequate. It is also my opinion.

I know that illustration of coins is very useful to young collectors, helping them to locate in a quick way pieces they may have in hands, but I consider it a bad habit for them — it prevents them from the studying of coins —

I know that both are necessary, and, as mentioned above, it my intention to give the

the two.

Enclosed please find my opinion on the rarities of the Blackcrinths, also your two coins which I return under same cover, your ~~illegible~~ drawings, etc, for which accept my best thanks!

As to the letter, I find them very good, and I regret can not improve them.

I can not tell you what kind of eagle is on nos. 24 and 25; have never seen them; they are from Iowa.

I am going to have a catalogue printed on the bouquets; I expect to go to Montreal in a few days on that purpose.

Very truly yours,

W. Courteau

EUG. G. COURTEAU, M.D.
St-Jacques, P. Q.

St-Jacques de l'Achigan, 28 August 1908

Mr Howland Wood,
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

Inclosed find herewith an advertisement to be inserted in The Numismatist — September number.

Please also find explanations to be followed in the printing of this advertisement.

I should like to receive the cost of same by the return of mail, if possible.

As mentioned in your last letter, no doubt you will write a short editorial on my pamphlet in the next number of The Numismatist.

I have sent lately to Mr Mc Lachlan an unpublished — and probably unique — Louisbourg medal, same as Heroux's 856, but date corrected: 1758 instead of 1768, for him to describe. He wrote me that he was at a loss to decide whether he will send ~~it~~ the description to The Numismatist or to the American Journal of Numismatics. I strongly advised him to send it to our Journal.

Hoping everything will be exactly as required, and awaiting an early answer from you.

I remain,

Very truly Yours,
W. Courteau

DR COURTEAU

ST-JACQUES, P. Q.

St-Jacques, 26 October 1909

Mr Howland Wood,

Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

I have for a long time been of the opinion that there exist communications between spirits. Since few days I was thinking myself to write you asking you to give me the preference in case you were to part with your canadian coins.

Not later than yesterday I was looking over your chart of the L.C. & C tokens, and I was thinking of one thing and an other, more especialy of the "Irregular dots" var., the "Blunk R" var., the "M's close" and the "M's wider spaced" var., the "Defective cerph to N" var. and the "Lettering diff. spaced than on 29" var. Not speaking of your No. 15, and I was saying to myself are these Mr Wood's or mines? And what about Dr Courteau's work and labor, and trouble? ..... I did not find the least trace of a mention!!!

If I were not to issue books on all these, well, Mr Wood, I would not have a word to say ..... but I intend to publish books on all canadian subjects, and you know that; and I will give all the result of hours upon hours of search and trouble to others to make use of it. There is no human sense in that

For instance, take the "Rising Sun Tavern" token, for one, Messrs Mc Lachlan, Dow of Montreal, Low of New York, Heal of Toronto + and others, were at a loss trying to decypher the meaning of the reverse; when I found it out, one gentleman wrote me, Well you had a better specimen, ≠ that 'all! No, Sir, I did not have better specimens, and the fact, I got them from these same people.

If it was so easy for me to discover the proper meaning, why was it not so for themselves when they were in possession of the very same specimens.

Mind you, Mr Wood, there is nothing very clever to my thinking in the fact of discovering new varieties; it is purely a matter of luck, any one can do so, but what there is more difficult it is to fix varieties in an accurate way, that is to say, to not make 2 or 3 varieties out of one, or to omit as many in a series, as the thing often occured these last years in most of our issues.

Now, Mr Wood, don't think I have any grudge against you, on the contrary, I was most pleased to meet you in Montreal, and I found that you were a "Charmant garçon", and I hope we will remain as good friends in the future as we were in the past.

Truly Yours,

D- Courteau

P.S. What is the price of your son, £. 40?

D-C.

93 Perry Street
Brookline' - Mass.

Dr.Cour[illegible],
St.Jacques,Canada.
Dear Doctor,-

Your favor of Oct. 26 at hand and I cannot say that I appreciate the position you have taken.I have been spending the month, looking over all your letters and I have come to this conclusion,that you are anxious to get all the information you can from others as many of your letters bear the request to send it to you or that coin so you could see it,and in a number of instances you admitted that the coins or information sent you were unknown to you.I likewise admit that I have received a fund of information from you, or, possibly from anyone else,and that at times you were very willing to impart information.

When I first wrote up the B.C.& C. tokens.I simply photographed these and asked what new ones you had. I and others had discovered. I did not dream that I was stepping on your toes when I did this. As this was a public spirited [illegible] acknowledgement of [illegible] was indebted to for this.I realize now that I should have given more matter than to locate and the names of persons that aided me was on this.

On the Lahiff series we had quite a correspondence,you gave me much information on it one day I gave you some especially on one of the copper pieces not in the published account I did not see much use,therefore I wrote you that I was collecting, illustrating these that you wrote over on May 13 1906 that an account of your coins of early pioneers and that you could not aid me in this. Although I had this record of every piece and all the specimens but two, out of courtesy to you I refrained from doing anything with it.Shortly after this I wrote you that I thought I would print my Blacksmiths,you wrote back that you were preparing a [illegible] also.A short while after this when you were almost ready to publish you wrote me again and I think that your conscience must have troubled you for you said that for the benefit of science I should withhold it, common etc. and requested certain coins you were not owner of in re Blacksmiths.

[illegible] came out you gave me a simple [illegible] credit for one bit or only two, those that helped you "scientific science" did so unknown to me,[illegible] I rather imagine that you could not have filled up so completely if it was not for some of these "contributors of science".For instance three years, in dress,[illegible] the writer has been and slip,as well as others..never one [illegible] of these coin or information or coin was in the instances were I refrained from publishing out of courtesy to you. Your published list of Blacksmiths was worked out , your own self [illegible] I cannot see how this account will hurt you,and if you intend to publish [illegible] my Blacksmith information will surely be of benefit to you.

I am writing this in a friendly spirit to outline to you my position and to show you that I am not trying to rob you of any [illegible] glory(as you have had your say on these Blacksmiths).But I cannot reconcile myself that the Canadian series is yours by divine right as Henry seems to think. The North Pole is his.

Very truly.

DR COURTEAU

ST-JACQUES, P. Q.

St-Jacques, 15 November 1909

Mr Howland Wood Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

I am most pleased to read yours of the 7th inst., which, as you say, was written in a friendly spirit.

You better reconcile yourself as to the Canadian Seine being mine by divine right, as you are talking of one thing that I never pretend of. Regarding the North Pole, I should think, Mr Wood, that I am much nearer to it than you are.

Now, suppose, I would know a man working about class of coins for years. Take, for instance, yourself working about some U. S. serie, and me knowing that, would try to get all the information possible ..... and one good morning " I will publish a book on the serie you were just working at. Would you call that justice? Of course, you don't see any harm in doing so ....!

Well, let me tell you, Dear Sir, that I, for one, will never do that to nobody ..... especialy to some one I have meet, and since feel to write to less a stranger.

I always had the intention to mention the name of those from whom I received informations, but in my books only.

You seem surprised that I am looking for informations in my letters. How do you expect a man can write books on subjects as those I am writing ~~without~~ without any helps? Have you ever heard that it had been done before?

Take European writers, they even announce it in journals or monthly, and ask for informations!

That does not mean that every one who gives them informations is entitled to write on same subjects.

Yours truly,

Ed Courtenay

American Numismatic Association

Dr. EUGENE G. COURTEAU, Local Secretary for
Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Islands and Newfoundland
St. Jacques, P. Q.

Mr Howland Wood

Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir,

Your pamphlet on Canadian Blacksmiths received O.K. Many thanks!

I have also to thank you for mentioning my name, but, if I understand your meaning properly, I notice you wrote in page 4 on 24th line, that this is the first instance they (Blacksmiths) were described, no doubt you mean illustrated, for, as you know I am the first who described them.

I am working at Canadian varieties, ~~and before~~ since 12 years, and for the first time I used to mention them in my correspondences, Canadian Collectors used to laugh at me, and called me crank, but few years later they — themselves — got the "mal", and started to search for them. This is the plain truth!

(over)

Concerning the Rising sun piece, you say that I am the first to make out the reading. That is very well and very true; but farther you say from a comparison of several specimens. No, Sir! only from 3. I don't think 3 is several. No doubt you will be present at the Convention in New York! If any ₰ way possible, I shall go.

Truly Yours,

L. Conteau

15 Aug. 1910 -

Nova Scotia - George IV head pcs

	Pennies		½ Pennies	
1823	0		4	4
1824	5	✓	2	1
1832 - regulars.	3	✓	12	8 1 suppose Cancelled
1832 - Counterfeits	3	3	6 - 1382	4

- included.

one dated 1882

11 24

24

38

Those are the varieties that I know of so far -

L. L.